

**EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA
8TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
THURSDAY MARCH 19, 2015 – 6:30 P.M.**

Members	Attendance	April 2014- APRIL 2015	
		Present	Absent
Edna Elijah, Chair	P	10	1
Austin Scott, Vice, Chair	P	10	0
Gregory T. Boardman	P	09	2
Towana Bonaparte	P	06	2
Dr. Ciara L. Bostick	A	02	1
Maureen S. Dinnen	P	07	4
W. Jason Dunne	P	03	1
Rochelle Horowitz	P	08	3
Deniece Jones	P	09	1
Jennifer L. Kimmey	P	10	1
Dr. Maureen Persi	P	07	3
Shelby Smith	P	11	0
S. Carey Villeneuve	P	07	0
M. Elaine Wilson	P	02	0

**Appointed Members to the Board: 14
Needed to constitute a quorum: 8**

Staff

Sheri Roberts, staff liaison
Charles Webster, Broward County Public Schools, (BCPS) Liaison
Betty Shelley, Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Association

I. Opening and Pledge of Allegiance – Chair, Edna Elijah

II. Attendance by Roll Call – Chair, Edna Elijah

Determination of quorum

As of this date, March 19, 2015 there are 14 appointed members to the board, which means 8 would constitute a quorum. At this time, there is a quorum.

III. Approve minutes (February 19, 2015)

Motion by Ms. Dinnen, seconded by Dr. Persi, that the said minutes for February 19th, 2015 be approved. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

IV. Guest introductions:

Chair Elijah introduced guest speaker Mr. Christopher Gates, Technology Specialist, Broward County Public Schools, Dillard Innovation Zone Minority Male Task Force Ambassador. Mr. Gates distributed packets to the board and said that in BCPS strategic plans, one of the focus areas is minority success. Mr. Gates said that he is one of the Ambassadors for the 33311 zip code as well as, Ms. Angela Brown, principal Dillard elementary and Mark Larose assistant principal at William Dandy middle school.

Mr. Gates proceeded with a slide presentation that gave the Board some details about the data and statistics regarding the students and the area they serve, particularly the black male population.

Chair Elijah commented on the day care and VPK providers in the Dillard zone specifically the head start application process April 06th -18th. She said “there are limitations for kids to get into head start, including a waiting list”.

Ms. Elaine Wilson said “if you are doing a VPK program, you have to be a 4 year old by September 1st. She said “a lot of schools accept 3 and 4 year olds and get twice the money from the state, and nobody checks”. Ms. Wilson continued by saying, she has been in the business for over thirty years and a lot of providers are “out there for the wrong reasons”.

The last topic Mr. Gates covered was early childhood STEM learning through the arts programming. Mr. Gates said that both Dillard high and Parkway middle has magnet art programs, “so why not start at the elementary because eventually the kids will be attending these schools”. The STEM learning through the Arts is done by the Master Teacher Residency program. According to Mr. Gates, this new initiative helps young children learn basic academic concepts taught by early childhood professionals.

V. Current business

A. BCPS updates – Charles Webster

Mr. Webster shared that 50 students are going to Tallahassee on Monday to advocate for student government associations and mentoring tomorrow's leaders. Last year, they received \$200,000 from the State; they are going to thank them as well as get involved in the legislative process.

Mr. Webster also announced the Caliber awards scheduled for April 01st. He mentioned that 2 Principals out of 6 are from the City of Fort Lauderdale.

Chair Elijah shared with Mr. Webster and the Board that the City has provided the opportunity for the Board to attend the Caliber awards at the Broward County Convention Center to support Ms. Brown and Ms. Ribeiro.

Mr. Webster replied by saying "I do not know of any other City that is providing this opportunity, so kudos to the City of Fort Lauderdale".

Chair Elijah asked Mr. Webster if he had any updates on the Harbordale school boundary proposal. He replied by saying "I am not the best person to answer that but, I do know the next meeting is April 08th at 5:30 pm, Plantation high school.

B. Board discussions/member updates

Mr. Villeneuve opened the discussion with an update regarding the Harbordale boundary proposals. He shared that several members attended the recent town hall meeting held in the Commission chambers by Vice-Mayor Rogers. Mr. Villeneuve said Ms. Kimmey, Mr. Boardman, Mr. Smith and others were in attendance at this meeting. He reminded the board, for the proposal to be adopted it must pass 2 votes at a BCPS meeting/workshop. Mr. Villeneuve said he was in attendance at the 1st meeting when the proposal passed, which was on February 25th at Plantation High. He said there was an amendment for siblings of current students would have high priority to get to go to Harbordale. Mr. Villeneuve explained any student who is on current reassignment from Harbordale, their sibling will more than likely get to attend the school as well. He said the 1st proposal passed 8 to 1 and the next vote is scheduled for April 08th.

Chair Elijah announced that the Board has tickets to the upcoming Caliber Awards scheduled for April 1st at the Broward County Convention Center at 5:30 PM. She said the City of Fort Lauderdale purchased tables for the Board to attend to support the Principals nominated for awards.

VI. Communication to City Commission

Motion Ms. Kimmey made a motion that Education Advisory Board has evaluated and carefully reviewed the proposed redistricting and endorses boundary proposals E-1 and E-2, as amended. Ms. Horowitz seconded the motion.

In a voice vote, the Motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting and Closing

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 16th, 2015
City hall, 8th floor conference room